

Message Text

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SUBJECT: 14 OCT FBIS REPORT

FOR: SENIOR CIVILIAN COORDINATOR (HERBERT)

THE FOLLOWING FBIS REPORT DATED 14 OCT 1516Z IS FORWARDED
FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND USE. BEGIN QUOTE.

HANOI VNA OCTOBER 11--IN A COMMENTARY ENTITLED "A SINISTER
SCHEME, A TRICK TO DECEIVE PUBLIC OPINION," THE ARMY
PAPER "QUAN DOI NHAN DAN" TODAY DEALS WITH THE U.S. PLAN TO
UNILATERALLY REPATRIATE SOUTH VIETNAMESE FROM GUAM.

THE PAPER SAYS: "THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM RESOLUTELY WILL NOT PERMIT
THE FORD ADMINISTRATION--CAPITALIZING ON THE DESIRE OF VIET-
NAMESE WHO WERE DECEIVED OR COMPELLED INTO EVACUATION AND
NOW WANT TO RETURN HOME--TO SEND THE VESSEL THUONG TIN
CARRYING 1,600 REFUGEES, TO SOUTH VIETNAM."

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THE PAPER WARNS THE FORD ADMINISTRATION OF "SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES IF IT STUBBORNLY CONTINUES WITH THIS ARROGANT AND UNILATERAL ACT."

THE PAPER QUOTES WESTERN REPORTS AS SAYING THAT U.S. BRIGADIER-GENERAL JAMES HERBERT, CIVIL COORDINATOR FOR THE INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE IN GUAM IS HURRIEDLY TRAINING A VIETNAMESE CREW FOR THE VESSEL THUONG TIN. THE VESSEL HAS BEEN THROUGH DOCK TRIALS, OVERNIGHT SEA TRIALS, AND LOADED WITH 30 TONS OF RICE AND SUPPLIES FOR A 30-DAY VOYAGE.

WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE VOYAGE OF THE VESSEL TO SAIGON, HERBERT SAID ARROGANTLY: "WE HAVE RESPONDED TO THE DESIRE OF THE REPATRIATES, NOT THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT."

THE PAPER GOES ON:

"THE FACT THAT THE FORD ADMINISTRATION DECEIVED AND COERCED VIETNAMESE INTO EVACUATION IS A CRIME. NOW THEY INTEND TO CAPITALIZE ON THE LEGITIMATE DEMANDS OF REFUGEES WHO WANT TO RETURN HOME IN ORDER TO OPPOSE THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE AND ENCROACH UPON THE SOVEREIGNTY OF VIETNAM. TOGETHER WITH ITS OBDURATE OPPOSITION TO THE APPLICATIONS OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS, THE FORD ADMINISTRATION'S SCHEME TO SEND THE THUONG TPN TO SOUTH VIETNAM WITHOUT THE PRG'S CONSENT IS A FURTHER ACT ENCROACHING UPON VIETNAM'S SOVEREIGNTY."

"IT IS CERTAIN THAT THIS ACTION WILL BE STRONGLY PROTESTED AGAINST AND CONDEMNED BY WORLD PUBLIC OPINION,

INCLUDING OPINION IN THE UNITED STATES," THE PAPER STRESSES, ADDING:

"THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE'S ATTITUDE IS VERY CLEAR. WE DESIRE TO SEE AN EARLY END TO THE TRAGIC DIVISION OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF VIETNAMESE FAMILIES CAUSED BY THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS.
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"IN ITS STATEMENT OF OCTOBER 4 THE PRG POINTED OUT THAT IT WOULD STUDY THE REPATRIATION APPLICATIONS CAREFULLY AND TAKE APPROPRIATE DECISIONS."

THE PAPER CONCLUDES: "THE FORD ADMINISTRATION MUST SEE THAT TO GIVE PERMISSION FOR THE VIETNAMESE TO RETURN TO VIETNAM FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES IS THE SOVEREIGN RIGHT OF

THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE, AND THE U.S. HAS NO RIGHT TO FORCE
THE MATTER." END OF QUOTE. INGERSOLL

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